IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have not been amended, but are reproduced below in their entirety for convenient reference by the Examiner:

1.   (Original) A method, comprising:

specifying a process definition task structure including a plurality of tasks;

dynamically binding a plurality of selected resources to the plurality of tasks;

configuring a cache to store at least one process information element included in the plurality of tasks and at least one datum having a value;

scheduling the plurality of resources to execute the plurality of tasks; and

executing the plurality of tasks.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically binding a plurality of selected resources to the plurality of tasks further comprises:

identifying a plurality of intrinsic properties associated with a plurality of designated resources;

identifying a plurality of assignable properties associated with the plurality of designated resources; and

defining a plurality of query predicates associated with the plurality of designated resources.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein dynamically binding a plurality of selected resources to the plurality of tasks further comprises:

registration of the pluralities of intrinsic and assignable properties with at least one resource directory;

locating a plurality of resource directories including the at least one resource directory; and

searching the plurality of resource directories to find the plurality of selected resources associated with the plurality of designated resources.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein configuring a cache to store at least one
process information element included in the plurality of tasks and at least one datum having a
value further comprises:

        configuring a plurality of access control rules associated with the plurality of selected
resources; and

        delivering a plurality of access credentials associated with the plurality of access control
rules to the plurality of selected resources.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein configuring a cache to store at least one
process information element included in the plurality of tasks and at least one datum having a
value further comprises:

        distributing at least one software module to at least one of the plurality of selected
resources; and

        distributing the plurality of tasks to the plurality of selected resources.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein configuring the cache to store at least one
process information element included in the plurality of tasks and at least one datum having a
value further comprises:

        pre-fetching the value of the at least one datum; and

        storing the value of the at least one datum in the cache.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

        revising the value of the datum stored in the cache.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein revising the value of the datum stored in the
cache further comprises:

        requesting the value of the datum from a data source;

        marking the datum at the data source using a tag associated with a selected one of the
plurality of tasks stored in the cache;

receiving an update notification for the value of the datum; and

replacing the value of the datum with an updated value for the datum.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

removing the tag when the selected one of the plurality of tasks is purged from the cache.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

monitoring a plurality of results associated with executing the plurality of tasks.

11.   (Original) An information processing system, comprising:

a specification module to specify a process definition task structure including a plurality

of tasks;

a binding module to dynamically bind a plurality of selected resources to the plurality of

tasks, the binding module capable of being communicatively coupled to the specification

module;

a cache to store at least one process information element included in the plurality of tasks

and at least one datum having a value, the cache capable of being communicatively coupled to

the specification module; and

a scheduling module to schedule the plurality of resources to execute the plurality of

tasks, the scheduling module capable of being communicatively coupled to the specification

module.

12.   (Original) The information processing system of claim 11, further comprising:

a cache update module capable of being communicatively coupled to the cache.

13.   (Original) The information processing system of claim 11, further comprising:

a monitoring module to monitor a plurality of results associated with executing the plurality of

tasks, the monitoring module capable of being communicatively coupled to the specification

module.

14.   (Original) The information processing system of claim 11, wherein the specification module and the scheduling module are included in a first computer.

15.   (Original) The information processing system of claim 14, wherein the binding module and the cache are included in a second computer capable of being communicatively coupled to the first computer.

16.   (Original) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium having associated data, wherein the data, when accessed, results in a machine performing:

specifying a process definition task structure including a plurality of tasks;

dynamically binding a plurality of selected resources to the plurality of tasks;

configuring a cache to store at least one process information element included in the plurality of tasks and at least one datum having a value;

scheduling the plurality of resources to execute the plurality of tasks; and

executing the plurality of tasks.

17.   (Original) The article of claim 16, wherein the machine-accessible medium further includes data, which when accessed by the machine, results in the machine performing:

identifying a plurality of intrinsic properties associated with a plurality of designated resources;

identifying a plurality of assignable properties associated with the plurality of designated resources; and

defining a plurality of query predicates associated with the plurality of designated resources.

18.   (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the machine-accessible medium further includes data, which when accessed by the machine, results in the machine performing:

registration of the pluralities of intrinsic and assignable properties with at least one resource directory;

locating a plurality of resource directories including the at least one resource directory;

and

searching the plurality of resource directories to find the plurality of selected resources

associated with the plurality of designated resources.

19.   (Original) The article of claim 16, wherein the machine-accessible medium further

includes data, which when accessed by the machine, results in the machine performing:

revising the value of the datum stored in the cache.

20.   (Original) The article of claim 16, wherein the machine-accessible medium further

includes data, which when accessed by the machine, results in the machine performing:

requesting the value of the datum from a data source;

marking the datum at the data source using a tag associated with a selected one of the

plurality of tasks stored in the cache;

receiving an update notification for the value of the datum; and

replacing the value of the datum with an updated value for the datum.

21.   (Original) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium having associated data,

wherein the data, when accessed, results in a machine performing:

specifying a process body including a plurality of tasks; and

specifying a process state having execution state information.

22.   (Original) The article of claim 21, wherein specifying the process body further

comprises:

specifying at least one operation conducted at a resource discovery location by a selected

resource having a resource profile.

23.   (Original) The article of claim 22, wherein specifying the at least one operation further

comprises:

specifying a service type, an interface definition, and parameter data.

24.   (Original) The article of claim 23, wherein specifying the parameter data further comprises:

        specifying a datum to be revised at a data discovery location by a selected repository having a repository profile.

25.   (Original) The article of claim 21, wherein specifying the process state further includes:

        specifying a process instance identification, a process execution status, and at least one task result associated with a selected one of the plurality of tasks.